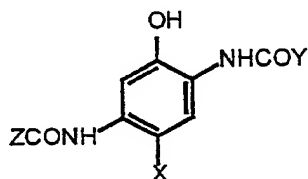


Claims:

1. A photographic element comprising at least one silver halide emulsion layer having associated therewith a phenolic cyan dye-forming coupler of formula (I)



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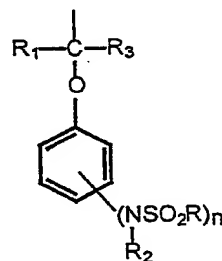
(I)

wherein

X is hydrogen or a group that can be split off by the reaction of the coupler with an oxidised colour developing agent, and

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one of Y and Z is the group



wherein

each R is independently an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group or a 5-10 membered heterocyclic ring which contains one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted;

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R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group,

R<sub>2</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group or a 5-10 membered heterocyclic ring which contains one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted;

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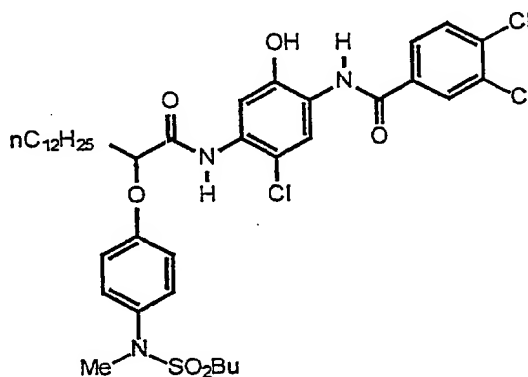
R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group,

n is 1 or 2, and each group -N(R<sub>2</sub>)SO<sub>2</sub>R is in the ortho or para position,

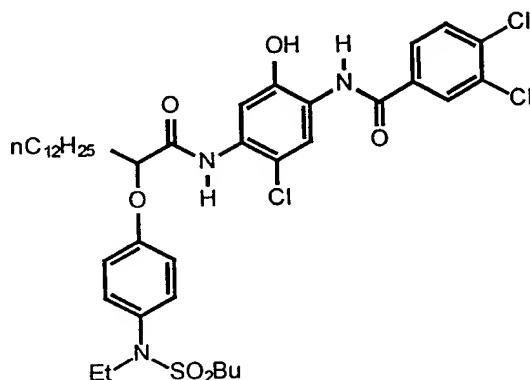
the other of Y and Z is a fluoro-substituted alkyl group or an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group or a 5-10 membered heterocyclic ring which contains one or more

heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted, provided that (a) when  $R_2$  is an unsubstituted benzyl group,  $n$  is 1 and  $-N(R_2)SO_2R$  is in the ortho position,  $R$  may not be a pyridyl group, and (b) at least one of  $R$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  or  $Z$  is or includes a ballast group.

- 5 2. An element according to claim 1 wherein  $R$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group.
3. An element according to either of the preceding claims wherein each of  $R$  and  $R_2$  is a lower alkyl group.
4. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein  $R_1$  is an alkyl
- 10 group having at least 8 carbon atoms.
5. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein  $R_3$  is hydrogen.
6. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein  $n$  is 1 and the group  $-N(R_2)SO_2R$  is in the para position.
7. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the group  $Z$
- 15 contains the  $-N(R_2)SO_2R$  substituent and the group  $Y$  is an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group.
8. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the cyan dye-forming coupler has the structure



9. An element according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the cyan dye-forming coupler has the structure



10. A multicolour photographic element comprising a support bearing yellow, magenta and cyan image-dye-forming units comprising at least one blue-, green- or red-sensitive silver halide emulsion layer having associated therewith at least one yellow, magenta or cyan dye-forming coupler respectively, wherein the element comprises at least one cyan dye-forming coupler of formula (I) as defined in any one of the preceding claims.
11. A process of forming an image in a photographic element after the element has been imagewise exposed to light, comprising contacting the element, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, with a colour developing agent.
12. A coupler of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 9.

15